



I Marine Expeditionary Force Safety & Force Preservation Policy



"Our most valuable asset is that most at risk – our people."

Whether in uniform, civilian or a family member, leaders at every level must be actively engaged with those in their charge to ensure their safety, welfare and readiness. Active involvement in the lives of our fellow Marines and Sailors is a must and is no easy task as it involves time, commitment and a genuine selfless concern for others...and I expect nothing less from our leaders. I need everyone to be at their best in order to effectively operate in every clime and place at a moment's notice. This is today's leadership challenge, and to do this I MEF Marines and Sailors need to train to decisively accomplish the mission for any contingency which requires a high degree of readiness both professionally and personally.

Leadership does not stop when we pass through the front gate or when liberty is sounded, and safety is simply a byproduct of dedicated leadership and stalwart professionalism. We are all accountable for our own decisions and actions as well as our non-actions whether on or off-duty, or while on liberty. I expect leaders to provide the guidance and mentorship necessary to ensure personnel are well trained, know their limitations and are disciplined not to exceed them. The Blue Threat is ever-present and often lays in wait for an opportune time to strike, usually when our Marines and Sailors least expect it. We must recognize this and be ever vigilant to the conditions surrounding us. Also, we need to ensure that we never fail to come to the aid of others in a time of need for this is a calling we nobly accept.

I MEF is engaged around the globe in the defense of our great nation and our combat readiness depends on our people being ready and able to do what it takes to get the job done. As such, I need you all in the fight. Force Preservation demands we eliminate the senseless loss of personnel or materiel to preventable mishaps. This can only be accomplished through a collective effort by each and every one of us. I am counting on your leadership, sound judgment and professionalism to make a difference and to be ready when called.

Semper Fidelis

D. H. Berger
Lieutenant General, USMC
Commanding General
I Marine Expeditionary Force